TRANSCRIPT PREPARED BY THE CLERK OF THE LEGISLATURE Transcriber's Office FLOOR DEBATE

April 24, 2001 LB 538

SPEAKER KRISTENSEN PRESIDING

SPEAKER KRISTENSEN: (Recorder malfunction)...Norris Legislative Chamber. This morning our chaplain for the day, Senator Lowen Kruse. Senator.

SENATOR KRUSE: (Prayer offered.)

SPEAKER KRISTENSEN: I call the seventieth day of the Nebraska Unicameral Legislature to order. Senators, please record your presence. Roll call. Record, Mr. Clerk.

CLERK: I have a quorum present, Mr. President.

SPEAKER KRISTENSEN: Thank you, Mr. Clerk. Corrections this morning?

CLERK: I have no corrections, Mr. President.

SPEAKER KRISTENSEN: Any messages, reports or announcements?

CLERK: Mr. President, I have neither messages, reports, nor announcements this morning.

SPEAKER KRISTENSEN: We'll next move to General File, the appropriations package, LB 538. Mr. Clerk.

CLERK: Mr. President, LB 538, a bill introduced by the Speaker at the request of the Governor. (Read title.) Bill was introduced January 11 of this year, referred to the Appropriations Committee, advanced to General File. I do have committee amendments, Mr. President. (AM1046, Legislative Journal page 1590.)

SPEAKER KRISTENSEN: Senator Wehrbein, you're recognized to open on the bill.

SENATOR WEHRBEIN: Just a second, Mr. Speaker. I'm going to open up my booklet to the right page. Mr. Speaker, members of the body, today we're opening on the budget. If you have your blue book, been passed out, and the first bill on the agenda